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regarding the value of the LXX and the Vulgate. Inspired by the encyclical of Pope Leo XIII., November 18, 1893, as he acknowledges, he has made a useful addition to the exegetical literature of this difficult little book.—IRA M. PRICE.

The Books of Chronicles. Cambridge Series. By W. E. Barnes, D.D. (New York: The Macmillan Co., 1899; pp. xxxvi + 303; \$1.) The author occupies a conservatively critical position. He holds the generally received opinion that Chronicles-Ezra-Nehemiah formed originally a single work. He gives it, however, a very early date, contemporary with Nehemiah, ascribing the passages indicating a date from 300 to 250 B. C. to later editorial additions. In common with the more sober criticism of Chronicles, which has prevailed of late, this work recognizes the employment of many sources other than the canonical books. It is questionable if David's census can be included, however. And probably no distinction should be made between the series of prophetic histories and the books of the Chronicles of the kings of Israel and Judah.

Dr. Barnes unhesitatingly describes the chronicler as rather a religious commentator than a historian. He shows the inaccuracy of certain narratives and the hyperbolical character of others. The Levitical records he considers very uncertain and often anachronistic. At the same time, the historical basis of the records is sought with all fairness. A general view of the historicity of the Chronicles is afforded by a more detailed examination of five typical narratives: the victories of Abijah, Asa, and Jehoshaphat; the contest of Uzziah with the priests; the repentance of Manasseh. It is held that all are founded in fact.

A rigid criticism might consider that Dr. Barnes has sometimes been too concessive, and that some of his conjectures have a tendency to be "harmonistic," *e. g.*, in the price of the threshing-floor. But in general the work, while sympathetic, is judicial; and, in spite of its limited compass, is the most satisfactory commentary on Chronicles yet published in English.—THEO. G. SOARES.

The Hebrew Tragedy. By Colonel C. R. Conder, R.E., LL.D., D.C.L. (Edinburgh and London: William Blackwood & Sons, 1900; pp. 206; 3s.) A rapid outline sketch of the course of Israel's history, with plenty of color, is what is attempted in this little volume. The panorama reaches from Abraham the Sheik swinging across the "broad gray" Euphrates with "his blue-gowned princess" to the